



Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Group Art Unit 1636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF
ELISCHWESKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1636
Examiner: G. LEFFERS

Appln. No.: 09/680,310

Filed: October 6, 2000

Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PANTOTHENIC ACID BY
AMPLIFICATION OF NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH CODE FOR
KETOPANTOATE REDUCTASE

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
AND SUBMISSION OF SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is in response to the final official action dated June 19, 2002, wherein the claims were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendment and remarks.

I. AMENDMENT

Please amended the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 35, 36, 40, and 43 as follows.

35. (Amended) The process of claim 30, wherein over-expression is achieved by mutating a promoter or other regulatory element controlling coding sequences of a structural gene that prompts pantothenic acid production, the promoter or other regulatory element being located upstream of the structural gene.

36. (Amended) The process of claim 30, wherein over-expression is achieved by incorporating an expression cassette upstream of said panE gene, thereby increasing the